

Message Text

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TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 017404 TOSEC 010189

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT LISBON 0498 ACTION NATO INFO SECSTATE 23

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QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 0498

EXDIS

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS SECRETARY'S PARTY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, NAC

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S VISIT TO BRUSSELS: PORTUGUESE ATTENDANCE

AT NAC BRIEFING

REF: USNATO 0363

1. DR. JOSE FARIA PAIS, WHO WILL ATTEND NAC BRIEFING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER (RETEL), IS ANTUNES'S SPECIAL ASSISTANT. HE HAS SERVED IN THAT CAPACITY SINCE ANTUNES ENTERED GOVERNMENT AS MINISTER W/O PORTFOLIO IN JANUARY 1975.

2. FARIA PAIS IS NON-CAREER. ABOUT 30 YEARS OLD, HE CAME TO
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ANTUNES' ATTENTION WHILE DOING HIS MILITARY SERVICE IN ANGOLA.

HIS BACKGROUND IS IN SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SCIENCES. UNTIL NOW HE HAS NOT BEEN PROMINENT FIGURE ON MINISTER'S STAFF AND IS NOT WELL KNOWN IN MINISTRY.

3. FARIA PAIS'S PERSONAL POLITICAL LINKS ARE TO THE EX-MES, AN ANTI-COMMUNIST BUT QUITE FAR LEFT GROUP OF INFLUENTIAL INTELLECTUALS WITH A MARXIST ORIENTATION. THE EX-MES MEMBERS FAVOR RECOGNITION OF THE MPLA, CLOSE LINK TO THE THIRD WORLD, AND A REVOLUTIONARY VANGUARD ROLE FOR THE MILITARY (AND THEMSELVES) IN PORTUGAL. THEY ARE UNENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT NATO.
CARLUCCI

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